

VZCZCXYZ0001
PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHLGB #0821 3311023
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 261023Z NOV 08
FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5770
INFO RUEHDS/AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 0216
RUEHBS/AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS 0348
RUEHJB/AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA 0447
RUEHDR/AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM 1260
RUEHKM/AMEMBASSY KAMPALA 2035
RUEHKI/AMEMBASSY KINSHASA 0587
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 0361
RUEHNR/AMEMBASSY NAIROBI 1367
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 0620

UNCLAS KIGALI 000821

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

STATE/EEB - MLURIE, JSPECK
PASS TO USAID - BHAMMINK
PASS TO USDA KMILLER

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [EAGR](#) [EAID](#) [ECON](#) [EFIN](#) [EINV](#) [ETRD](#) [PGOV](#) [KIDE](#) [AID](#)
RW

SUBJECT: REWANDA RESPONSE TO PROPOSED GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP
FOR AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

REF: STATE 123480

¶1. (U) Emboffs reviewed reftel talking points with Minister of State in Charge of Agriculture Dr. Agnes Kalibata. Kalibata welcomed the initiative and agreed that a global partnership would be helpful for advancing global food security. The Minister noted global food insecurity "will not go away" and needed to be addressed through global cooperative programs.

¶2. (U) Kalibata suggested that while much emphasis has been focused on food production, Rwanda needs more "post harvest" assistance. She noted that "if farmers produce but then can't sell their products due to poor crop storage facilities and inefficient markets then there is no incentive for them to produce next season". The minister recommended more attention be placed on organizing farmer cooperatives and providing them with assistance in selling their products outside of their immediate communities. Better storage facilities and packaging materials were also key to selling beyond local markets, she said.

¶3. (U) The minister said that Rwanda's harvests have been excellent, but that demand from external markets such as the Sudan and Uganda has kept prices relatively high. While this benefited the rural communities, she admitted that urban consumers were suffering from the higher prices.
SYMINGTON